## SHERROD BROWN

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION,
AND FORESTRY

BANKING, HOUSING,
AND URBAN AFFAIRS

HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS

VETERANS' AFFAIRS

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 7, 2008

Mr. John Mullen Chief Executive Officer DHL Express Deutsche Post World Net Charles-de-Gaulle-Str. 20 53113 Bonn Germany

Dear Mr. Mullen,

The anticipated mass layoff at the Wilmington Air Park due to the restructuring announcement made by Deutsche Post World Net (DPWN) on May 28, 2008 has created tremendous uncertainty among workers and families, area businesses, and community officials.

Adding to this uncertainty is what appears to be a significant decrease in package volume at Wilmington. Industry sources have speculated that DHL has already terminated a substantial percentage of its domestic sales staff. Unfortunately, there has been little information from DHL about the workers who have been terminated in Ohio.

As you may be aware, the state of Ohio is seeking a National Emergency Grant (NEG) from the Labor Department that will assist workers with re-location costs, skills training, and other vital services. In assessing grant requests such as the NEG, DOL tends to recognize a Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification (WARN) notice to determine the number of workers in need of services. It is my understanding that hundreds of DHL workers in Wilmington may have been terminated without a WARN notice. Without detailed information, it is much more likely these workers will fall between the cracks in the workforce system.

While WARN notices may not be required given the threshold of layoffs required in the statute, I request that DHL nonetheless provide local and state officials with as much information as possible. It is good corporate citizenship for a reputable employer to provide advance notice to its workers, local government, and appropriate state agencies when terminating a significant number of employees.

While I and members of the Ohio congressional delegation will continue to seek to work with DPWN, DHL, the incumbent air carriers and its unions in order to find a solution that keeps jobs

in Ohio, I ask that DHL make a good faith effort to help the surrounding communities adjust to this massive blow. The continued uncertainty is making a bad situation worse.

Sherrod Brown United States Senator

Cc: Michael Schmidt, Director of DHL Hub Operations, Wilmington
Wolfgang Pordzik, Executive Vice President, Corporate Public Policy, DHL North America
Helen E. Jones-Kelley, Director, Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services
Wendy Patton, Rapid Response Administrator, Office of Gov. Strickland
David Raizk, Mayor, City of Wilmington